

Interview Summary	Application No. 09/973,757	Applicant(s) TAMARU, MASATAKE	
	Examiner Peter Choi	Art Unit 3623	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

- (1) Peter Choi (PTO personnel). (3) Eugene Varndell (applicant's representative).
 (2) Michelle Tarae (PTO personnel). (4) _____.

Date of Interview: 23 January 2007.

Type: a) ☐ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
 c) ☒ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☒ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.
 If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: 1, 14 and 22.

Identification of prior art discussed: Melby et al. (US Patent #6,952,680).

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☒ N/A.

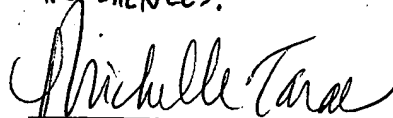
Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: <below>

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

EXAMINERS TARAE AND CHOI DISCUSSED WITH MR. VARNDELL, THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS. A DISCUSSION OF THE MELBY REFERENCE AND THE CLAIMED INVENTION AND THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THEM. EXAMINERS SUGGESTED SOME CLAIM LANGUAGE TO NARROW THE SCOPE OF THE CLAIMS AND DISTINGUISH THE CLAIMED REFERENCE BEYOND THE MELBY REFERENCE. A DISCUSSION OF THE CITED 112 REJECTIONS AND THEIR STATUS IN VIEW OF THE CLAIM AMENDMENTS WAS HELD. EXAMINER CHOI EXPLAINED THAT THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS MAY EXCEED THE SCOPE OF MELBY, BUT MAY NOT BE PRECLUDED BY OTHER PRIOR ART REFERENCES.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.



Examiner's signature, if required